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The mortality statistics show 114 deaths at Mayaguez, 7 of which were due to uncinariasis, 3 to anemia, 8 to pneumonia, 2 to tetanus, 13 to tuberculosis, 3 to broncho-pneumonia, and 2 to grippe; 97 deaths at Arecibo, 16 due to uncinariasis, 15 to anemia, 7 to tuberculosis, and 5 to infantile tetanus; 53 deaths at Humacao, 10 due to anemia, 3 to broncho-pneumonia, 3 to dysentery, and 5 to tuberculosis, and 1 to enteric fever; 49 deaths at Aguadilla, 5 due to anemia and uncinariasis, 4 to paludic fever, 4 to pneumonia, 7 to tuberculosis, and 1 to measles; 20 deaths at Arroyo, 2 due to uncinariasis, 3 to tuberculosis, and 1 to paludic fever; 45 deaths at Fajardo, 6 due to anemia, 3 to paludism, 2 to pneumonia, and 3 to tuberculosis. There were no quarantinable diseases reported from the subports during the month.

*Mortality statistics of San Juan, for month of May, 1905.*

Gastro-enteritis .....	5	Pernicious malarial fever.....	1
Enteritis.....	4	Leprosy .....	2
Broncho-pneumonia.....	1	Gastro-enteric fever .....	1
Tuberculosis .....	13	Bronchitis .....	2
Rickets .....	8	Broncho-pneumonia.....	1
Meningitis .....	2	Diseases of heart .....	10
Tetanus, infantile .....	2	From all other causes .....	31
Uncinariasis .....	2		
Anemia.....	2	Total .....	87

RUSSIA.

*Report from Moscow—Presence of cholera in Russia officially denied.*

Consul Smith reports, June 7, as follows:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch No. 42, dated May 20, with inclosure from the Secretary of Treasury dated May 16, respecting the existence of cholera at Charkov and other places.

I called on the chief of the sanitary bureau of the board of the zemstvo of the Moscow government, who is preparing an official report upon cholera, which will be issued in the near future. The Moscow zemstvo is receiving reports from all the zemstvos in Russia and up to the present day not a single case of death from cholera has been reported, contrary to all circulating reports. There have been some suspicious cases in the Samara, Saratoff, and Astrachan governments and also one case in the Charkov government, which upon investigation by the sanitary bureaus of the respective governments proved not to be cases of cholera.

Cholera was expected in Russia, but, thanks to the cold spring and the favorable overflow of the rivers in the southern governments, the disease was averted.

If any cases and deaths of cholera should occur I shall at once report to you.

SIAM.

*Report from Bangkok—History of plague outbreak.*

The following is received from T. Haywood Hays, fleet surgeon, H. S. M., Navy, under date of May 22:

For the first time, so far as is known, the capital of Siam has been visited by a slight outbreak of bubonic plague.

On December 20 last information was brought to the health department of Bangkok that several suspicious deaths had taken place on the west bank of the river. The medical officer of health at once proceeded to investigate the matter, when it was found that 4 deaths had occurred; that the symptoms had been very high fever with sudden onset, and death within thirty-six hours at the latest. No bubose or other swellings had been noticed, but in a house adjacent to that in which 3 persons had died a man was discovered who, on examination, proved to be suffering from typical bubonic plague.

All these cases were limited to a settlement of British Indians, but, on further inquiry, the health officer learned that another death from high fever, with buboes, had occurred in the house of a Siamese nobleman just outside the Indian settlement. There was also a history of great mortality among the rats for a week or two previous to the outbreak, followed apparently by migration of any surviving rats to other localities.

A cordon of police was at once drawn around the infected area; one lot of dirty wooden houses was pulled down and burned; others were vacated, the people being housed in temporary mat sheds within the cordon; a gang of rat catchers was set to work, and thorough cleansing and disinfection of the district were carried out. Some days were spent in burning the rubbish, filth, and general odds and ends. Whenever a death occurred the houses were practically gutted out, the contents burned, and compensation was at once given for the loss incurred. The corpses were at once cremated and the houses disinfected.

A reward was offered to all persons bringing rats, dead or alive, to a police station, with the result that within a period of two months over 150,000 rats were destroyed.

A temporary isolation hospital was established to which the sick were removed. Eleven deaths in all took place within the cordon. Previous to the quarantine being imposed, a woman who had attended one of the fatal cases had fled in terror to the east bank of the river. There she sickened and died, the case coming to the notice of the authorities only after her death. All persons who had been in contact with this woman were removed to the isolation hospital and the house was disinfected.

Ten days after the last case the cordon was removed, but the following day another very sudden death from plague took place in the infected district. A young Siamese male, aged 21 years, developed fever at 6 p. m., suffered from severe diarrhea throughout the night and died at 7 in the morning, a bubo meanwhile having arisen in his left groin. This was the last case that was discovered within the Indian settlement. The cordon was not renewed and no further case of plague was detected until a period of twenty-one days had elapsed, when on January 22 it broke out in a fresh district adjacent to the Indian settlement. Between that date and February 11, 17 fresh cases were discovered. All originated in districts close to the Indian settlement, and were preceded by mortality among rats.

A few remarks may be made with regard to the outbreak.

It was impossible to trace the route by which the infection entered Bangkok. Nothing definite could be discovered to throw any light on the question.

*Nature of cases.*—The first cases were extremely acute, partaking of the nature of an acute septicæmia, death occurring within twenty-four

to thirty-six hours without there being time for buboes to be noticed. Later cases proved more typical of the ordinary so-called bubonic plague. We had one very rapid case, already referred to, in which severe diarrhea was the principal feature. Buboes were noted in the inguinal femoral, iliac, submaxillary, occipital, and axillary regions. Had we not known that the first cases were plague, the cases with swollen submaxillary glands might have escaped detection, as there was at the same time in Bangkok a widespread epidemic of true mumps.

Only toward the end of the outbreak were recoveries obtained. One pneumonic case was noted.

*Death rate.*—Of a total of 29 cases 23 died, giving a death rate of 79 per cent, which agrees with epidemics in other places in the East.

*Bacteriological examination.*—All cases were not verified by bacteriological examination, but from time to time smears were made from glands excised post-mortem, and in all typical plague bacilli were discovered in abundance.

*Administrative difficulties.*—So far as the Siamese Government was concerned everything went well. His Majesty the King, recognizing that prompt measures were necessary, gave full power to the medical officer of health, and placed the whole police force at his disposal.

The usual scare arose, however. Wild rumors arose all over the town that the health department was kidnapping women and children, taking them to the plague hospital, there putting ice on their chests until death supervened, when the bodies were opened and the gall bladders removed for the purpose of preparing fresh poison wherewith to kill fresh victims. The lives of the medical officer of health and his assistants were so persistently threatened that police guards had to be provided. A royal proclamation explaining the nature of the disease and the steps which were being taken to stamp it out was published with excellent results. This, with the prosecution of a person who was discovered spreading false reports, allayed all excitement in two weeks.

#### WEST INDIES.

##### *Report from Barbados—Inspection of vessels—Smallpox in Grenada—Smallpox and yellow fever at Manaos and Para, Brazil.*

Assistant Surgeon Ward reports, June 22, as follows:

During the week ended June 17, 1905, bills of health were issued to 5 steamships and 1 sailing vessel with 219 crew, 74 cabin, and 138 steerage passengers. Of this number I inspected 4 steamships, 164 crew, and 138 steerage passengers. There were 1 crew, 38 cabin, and 47 steerage passengers taken on at this port.

The quarantine authorities of this port have received a dispatch from Grenada, West Indies, dated June 15, which says that during the last fortnight 4 additional cases of smallpox developed in the original infected district (parish of St. Andrew) in children who were vaccinated contacts of a previous case, the last case occurring on the 5th instant.

On the arrival of the British steamship *Horatio* at this port on the 21st instant, I noticed the following remarks on the American bill of health issued at Manaos and Para, respectively:

Manaos, June 12: "On the 4th instant there arrived at Manaos from the Rio Jurua a steamer with 10 cases of smallpox. All necessary